

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and re-examination are hereby requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly and distinctly point out the subject matter applicant regards as his invention. More particularly, claim 1, as amended, points out that: (1) the data rebuffering section has a main memory bi-directional data port, a microprocessor bi-directional data port coupled to the microprocessor, and a plurality of additional bi-directional data ports, such data rebuffering section being adapted to selectively couple data from any one of the plurality of additional bi-directional data ports to the microprocessor bi-directional data port selectively in accordance with a control signal; and (2) the main memory interface has a main memory interface bi-directional data port coupled to the main memory and an additional main memory interface bi-directional data port connected to the main memory bi-directional data port of the data rebuffering section. The claim then points out that the main memory interface provides control signals to the main memory and enables data transfer between the main memory and the microprocessor through the data rebuffering section as data in such data transfer passes between the additional bi-directional data port of the main memory interface and the microprocessor bi-directional data port.

With regard to Chin et al. (USP 6,356,972) patentee's processor controller 42 and which, as understood, Examiner equates with the applicant's data rebuffering section, does not have the following three types of bi-directional data ports:

- (A) a main memory bi-directional data port,
 - (B) a microprocessor bi-directional data port coupled to the microprocessor, and
 - (C) a plurality of additional bi-directional data ports (it being noted that the "port" from 50b, 50f is as single bi-directional port),
- nor does controller 42 selectively couple data from any one of the plurality of

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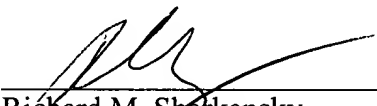
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additional bi-directional data ports to the microprocessor bi-directional data port selectively in accordance with a control signal because of the absence of the additional bi-directional data ports.

In the event any additional fee is required, please charge such amount to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 50-0845.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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